

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUWAIT 01237 020718Z  
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 LAB-04 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10  
NSAE-00 SIL-01 NEA-10 /048 W  
-----085628 021159Z /20-11

R 011430Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 344  
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
USINT BAGHDAD POUCH  
AMEMBASSY DOHA  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY MANAMA  
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT  
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 1237

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: ELAB, KU  
SUBJECT: JUNE ILO MEETING: KUWAITI VIEWS

REF: MANAMA 0516 (NOTAL)

1. DURING RECENT CALL BY EMBOFF, SENIOR KUWAIT LABOR MIN-  
ISTRY OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR INTERNATIONAL LABOR MATTERS  
(ABDULLA GLOOM HUSSAIN) HAD FOLLOWING TO SAY ON ILO RELATED  
ISSUES.

2. U.S. SEAT. AT JUNE ILO GOVERNING BODY MEETING KUWAIT WILL  
SUPPORT MOVE TO LEAVE SEAT FORMERLY OCCUPIED BY US VACANT  
PENDING EVENTUAL US RETURN. PRECEDENT FOR THIS WOULD BE  
VACANCY THAT EXISTS FOR CHINESE DELEGATION.

3. INCREASED SOVIET INFLUENCE. HUSSAIN PREDICTED PRESENCE  
OF SOVIET BLOC COUNTRIES WITHIN ILO WITHOUT US COUNTER-  
BALANCE WOULD PRODUCE PRONOUNCED "TILT TO THE LEFT". HE  
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FELT COMMUNIST COUNTRIES CLEARLY PREFERRED US TO REMAIN  
OUT OF ILO, BUT KUWAIT WANTS US TO RETURN.

4. ISRAELI TREATMENT OF ARAB WORKERS. HUSSAIN EXPECTED  
THAT QUESTION OF ISRAELI DISCRIMINATION AGAINST ARAB  
WORKERS IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, ISSUE WHICH CAUSED SUCH  
CONFLICT AT JUNE 77 ILO MEETING, WOULD BE RE-INTRODUCED

AT JUNE 78 ILO MEETING. THIS WAS ESPECIALLY LIKELY BECAUSE REPORT HAD BEEN REQUESTED OF THE ILO SECRETARIAT AND REPORT WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR JUNE 78 MEETING.

5. ASIAN PROPOSAL RE ILO GOVERNING BOARD. HUSSAIN CALLED ASIAN PLAN TO EXPAND ILO GOVERNING BOARD TO 100 MEMBERS (50 GOVERNMENT, 25 LABOR, 25 EMPLOYERS) "A BAD PRECEDENT THAT IF ALLOWED TO SUCCEED... WOULD RESULT IN LONG RUN IN WHOLE CONFERENCE BECOMING THE GOVERNING BODY." HUSSAIN, WHO REGULARLY REPRESENTS KUWAIT AT ILO MEETINGS, SAID HE WAS ADAMANTLY OPPOSED TO PROPOSED EXPANSION AND BELIEVED MOST AFRICANS WERE AS WELL.

6. ARAB/AFRICAN/G77 GROUP COORDINATION. HUSSAIN FELT THIS WAS UNLIKELY, GIVEN POSTPONEMENT OF THE YEAR'S ARAB LABOR ORGANIZATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE. HOWEVER, HE NOTED THAT GULF COUNTRIES WILL COORDINATE THEIR POSITIONS PRIOR TO JUNE ILO MEETING.

7. COMMENT: GOK IS NOT LOOKING FORWARD TO JUNE ILO MEETING, WHICH WILL LACK US COUNTERBALANCE TO RADICAL/ COMMUNIST COUNTRIES. IT PROBABLY WELCOMES A "GULF POSITION" WITH WHICH IT CAN ASSOCIATE SHOULD IT WISH TO OPPOSE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES INITIATIVES AT JUNE ILO CONFERENCE.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 01 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Review Markings:**  
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